



Community News & Events

Community News

California Office of Suicide Prevention Officially Opened



In early February, the Department of Mental Health held a press conference to officially open the Office of Suicide Prevention (OSP). Last year, Assemblymember Hayashi introduced groundbreaking legislation, Assembly Bill 509, which served as a catalyst for the creation of California's first ever agency dedicated solely to the coordination of suicide prevention efforts.

Now, underserved communities throughout the state will greatly benefit as a result of the creation of a centralized, coordinating body that will carry out the implementation of a statewide suicide prevention plan.

The creation of OSP enables California to leverage federal funds for suicide prevention from the United States Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), thereby, drawing in more resources to the state. Enacting a coordinated approach to negate suicide trends within the state will do more than eliminate the financial costs related to hospitalization and treatment; it will save countless lives and alleviate the human toll brought on by suicide.

Joining Assemblymember Hayashi at the press conference was Director Dr. Steven Mayberg of the Department of Mental Health, and Executive Director Heather Dearing of the California Youth Crisis Line along with many leaders and supporters of mental health organizations. Congratulations!



Assemblymember Hayashi Holds Green-Tech and Workforce Development Hearing



On February 7th, Assemblymember Mary Hayashi, Chair of the Assembly Select Committee on Community Colleges, convened a Green Technology and Workforce Development Hearing at the State Capitol. The hearing addressed the readiness of the community college system and its ability to meet the growing demand for skilled workers.

The California Community College system offers a multitude of job related training and skills development coursework under the current Economic Workforce and Development (EWD) program. A portion of the EWD's mission is to enhance and advance economic development and growth through the creation of a highly skilled and educated workforce.

Panelists at the hearing discussed programs and best practices that the EWD program and others have identified for meeting the demand in order to reduce California's greenhouse gases that lead to global warming.



Assemblymember Hayashi Introduces Legislation to Give Local Communities More Control Over Thermal Power Plants



Assemblymember Mary Hayashi has introduced Assembly Bill (AB) 1909 in response to a proposed construction of a second thermal power plant within the city of Hayward. AB 1909 would require the State Energy Resources and Development Commission, more commonly known as the California Energy Commission (CEC), to obtain the approval of the local governing body for the construction of additional thermal power plants and related facilities in a jurisdiction with a preexisting thermal power plant. The CEC would also be required to ensure that the construction conforms to all applicable local laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards (LORS).

AB 1909 will prevent a city such as Hayward from shouldering the environmental and health burdens of producing our state's energy. The Eastshore Energy Center (Eastshore), if approved by the CEC, will become the second power plant located a few miles from a previously approved 600 megawatt Russell City Energy Center. Eastshore, a 115 megawatt power plant, shall be permitted to emit 54 tons of nitrogen oxides, 84 tons of carbon monoxide, 64 tons of particulate matter known as PM10 and 6 tons of sulfur dioxide on an annual basis. These emissions will create enormous environmental problems and adversely impact the region's air quality resulting in higher rates of respiratory ailments such as asthma among our seniors and children.

The city of Hayward has stated to the CEC that Eastshore does not conform to Hayward's zoning standards due to its close proximity to homes, schools and businesses. Within a mile of Eastshore there are three colleges with a combined population of more than 16,000 students, single and multi-family homes with a population of approximately 8,000 residents and Eden Gardens Elementary School educating 540 Kindergarten to sixth grade children.

Grade Security Breach Legislation Introduced by Assemblymember Hayashi

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES SYSTEM OFFICE

Assemblymember Mary Hayashi introduced AB 1754 as a means to prevent future grade security breaches at California's Community Colleges. Currently, there are no system wide protocols in place to prevent other community colleges from facing similar incidents of unauthorized student grade changes that have been reported within the Contra Costa Community College District over the past three to five years. AB 1754 will require the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to distribute a model grade security policy to all community colleges in California. The model policy calls for the installation of security measures involving protections on grade records and grade storage systems from unauthorized access, limitations on access, and procedures to notify instructors and students of any grade changes. The policy is designed to allow community colleges to tailor their current systems to better secure the grades of their students at a minimal cost to themselves and the state.

CALPIRG Gives Assemblymember Hayashi an "A" Grade for Protecting Consumers



The California Public Interest Research Group (CALPIRG) recently announced its 2007 Legislative Scorecard and recognized Assemblymember Mary Hayashi for her outstanding legislative voting record that protects consumers.

According to CALPIRG's legislative advocate, Mr. Pedro Morillas, Assemblymember Hayashi received the A grade ranking because she has "consistently put the public interest ahead of special interests" on important issues such as health care and prescription drug reforms, consumer protections, efficient clean transportation and good government.

CALPIRG researches, reports and advocates at all levels of government for new laws and other protections that provide for enhanced health care policies, stronger consumer privacy and product safety codes.

Assemblymember Hayashi Receives Award for "Going Above and Beyond" for Her Legislative Work



The California Dental Association recently honored Assemblymember Mary Hayashi (D-Hayward) with its coveted "Going Above and Beyond" award for her legislative work on Assembly Bill 834. The bill provides additional preventative services for children participating in the California Dental Disease Prevention Program (CDDPP).

The award represents a hard fought effort on behalf of California's children who suffer from the number one chronic health problem, tooth decay. According to a recent Health Interview Survey, it is estimated that nearly ½ million children in California missed school in 2003 due to dental problems. Nearly a million children are eligible and waiting for CDDPP services.

NAACP of Hayward – South Alameda County's Youth Council Honored During Black History Month



As we recognize the month of February being Black History Month, Assemblymember Hayashi honored the NAACP of Hayward-South Alameda County Youth Council for its commitment to community service last weekend at the Palma Ceia Baptist Church.

Under the direction of President Freddy Davis and co-counselors Deborah Wright, Todd Davis, and Margaret McCullum, the Council has grown rapidly and received important leadership training on civic engagement. Assemblymember Hayashi commended the Youth Council for its involvement and interest in leadership, politics, voting rights and social justice issues.

Last March, the Youth Council participated in Assemblymember Hayashi's first Tinsel Town Hall featuring the acclaimed film, *Pride*.

Outgoing and Incoming Presidents of San Leandro Chamber of Commerce Honored



Assemblymember Mary Hayashi presented proclamations to outgoing president of the San Leandro Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors, Robert Brannan, on January 31st at the organization's 86th Annual Installation Dinner. Mr. Brannan distinguishes himself in the business community as General Manager of Marina Mediavision, which provides computer, networking and related services to small businesses located in the East Bay. Congratulations to Mr. Brannan for his successful term in leading this well represented organization.

Pictured to the right, Assemblymember honored San Leandro Chamber of Commerce's incoming president of the board of directors and civic leader, Rose Padilla Johnson. Ms. Johnson has been the Executive Director of Davis Street Family Resource Center since 1991. She has transformed the center into one of the most comprehensive nonprofit providers of human services in the greater San Leandro community. Best wishes for your continued success.



Upcoming Events

Come Support Assemblymember Hayashi's Bill to Stop Hayward's Second Proposed Power Plant



Assemblymember Hayashi will present her new legislation, AB 1909, in response to the proposed construction of a second thermal power plant within the city of Hayward at the next city council meeting on Tuesday, March 4th beginning at 8pm at Hayward City Hall.

AB 1909 would require the State Energy Resources and Development Commission, more commonly known as the California Energy Commission (CEC), to obtain the approval of the local governing body for the construction of additional thermal power plants and related facilities in a jurisdiction with a preexisting thermal power plant. The CEC would also be required to ensure that the construction conforms to all applicable local ordinances, regulations, and standards (LORS). AB 1909 will amend the current law so that no single community's LORS can be overruled if they already host a power plant in their jurisdiction. It will also prevent a city such as Hayward from shouldering the environmental and health burdens of producing our state's energy.

CELEBRATE EARTH DAY 2008: Green Innovations for a Clean California Symposium – April 11th



Block your calendars for an Earth Enlightening Symposium scheduled for Friday, April 11th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Las Positas College, Livermore. In celebration of Earth Day, Assemblymember Hayashi will bring together leading scientists and Clean Tech companies to discuss the latest green innovations for reducing California's Carbon Footprint.

Morning Session 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Topics: Global Warming & Its Effects on California, Organic Solar Collectors, Renewable Energy, Health & Environmental Impacts of Energy Generation and Solar Photovoltaic Research, and Environmental Legislation in California.

Afternoon Session 1:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Topics: Energy Efficient Technology for a Smart Home & Smart Office, Unlocking the Energy from within the Earth, Bay Area Companies Leading the Clean Technology Challenge, and Clean Technology & Workforce Development.

Location: Las Positas College, Bldg. 2400, Lecture Hall 2420, 3000 Campus Hill Drive, Livermore, CA 94551

Assemblymember Hayashi to Emcee Girls Inc. 50th Anniversary Celebration



Girls Incorporated celebrates 50 years of inspiring girls to be strong, smart, and bold. Assemblymember Mary Hayashi will emcee the celebration event on Friday, April 11th at the Rotunda building in Oakland. Assemblymember Hayashi will present the Lifetime Achievement Award to Pat Loomes, Executive Director of Girls Incorporated. She will also recognize Eunice Azzani as the Strong, Smart, Bold Award winner. We proudly celebrate their 50 years of fine programming and service to girls in Alameda County!

Tip of the Month

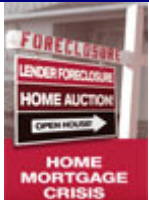
Free Eye Care for Eligible Seniors



Preserve Sight for California's Seniors: In celebration of the Foundation of the American Academy of Ophthalmology's 23 years of service, they are offering medical eye care to eligible seniors at no out-of-pocket cost. The Foundation's public service program, EyeCare America is coordinating the Seniors Eye Care Program. In California, 596 Ophthalmologists have volunteered to provide vital vision care. To schedule your appointment and obtain eligibility information, call 1-800-222-EYES (3937). The helpline is available 24 hours a day, every day. Here in California, EyeCare has provided care to 37,900 people. If you or someone you know is 65 years of age or older, take the time to make this important call for your sight.

Resources Available

New Publication Available



Home Mortgage Crisis Resource Guide

Publications Available



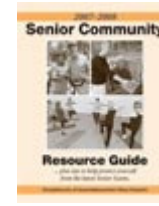
Child Immunization Law



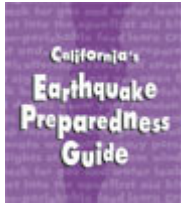
Ovarian Cancer Resource Guide



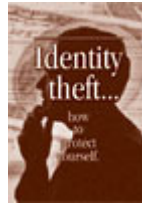
High Blood Pressure



Senior Resource Guide



Earthquake Preparedness Guide



ID Theft Guide



Diabetes Guide



Stroke: Don't ignore the risk factors!



Breast Cancer Resource Guide



Children's Coloring Book – How a Bill Becomes Law

Free community resource guides are now available in print or online through Assemblymember Mary Hayashi's district office. Copies are available throughout the 18th Assembly District at senior centers, libraries, health clinics, and community organizations. If you or your organization would like printed copies, contact the district office at (510) 583-8818.

State Resources Website



Want to find energy saving tips? Find it and over 170 other state resource links that offer valuable information on a wide range of topics such as how to find a smog-check only station, how to receive free cash for college, how to protect yourself from identity theft, and how to apply for a FasTrak toll device.

To visit the new webpage, log on to Assemblymember Hayashi's official homepage at www.assembly.ca.gov/hayashi and click on the *State Resources Websites* link. This will lead web browsers to a list of service-based websites. From there click on any of the service links and be directed to the appropriate state agency's website.

Whether you're looking for tips on how to save on prescriptions or attempting to find the nearest recycling center, this new webpage is a convenient and comprehensive resource.

If you prefer not to receive email updates or correspondences from the Office of Assemblymember Hayashi, please opt-out by emailing your request to Christopher.parman@asm.ca.gov.